

IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA  
FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT BETHEL

STATE OF ALASKA,

Plaintiff,

VS.

CHRISTOPHER A CARMICHAEL

DOB: 06/16/1964

APSIN ID: 7053724

DMV NO.: 7504969 AK

ATN: 116484021

**Defendant.**

No. 4BE-20- CR

## INFORMATION

I certify this document and its attachments do not contain the (1) name of a victim of a sexual offense listed in AS 12.61.140 or (2) residence or business address or telephone number of a victim of or witness to any offense unless it is an address identifying the place of a crime or an address or telephone number in a transcript of a court proceeding and disclosure of the information was ordered by the court.

The following counts charge a crime involving DOMESTIC VIOLENCE as defined in AS 18.66.990: NONE.

Count I - AS 11.41.436(a)(5)(B)  
Sexual Abuse Of A Minor In The Second Degree  
Christopher A. Carmichael - 001

Count II – AS 11.41.436(a)(5)(B)  
Sexual Abuse Of A Minor In The Second Degree  
Christopher A. Carmichael – 002

## THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY CHARGES:

COUNT I:

That on or about or between August 2017 and May 2018, at or near Bethel, in the Fourth Judicial District, State of Alaska, CHRISTOPHER A. CARMICHAEL (DOB: 06-16-1964), being 18 years of age or older, engaged in sexual contact with CHILD C (DOB: 2004), a person who was under 16 years of age and the offender occupied a position of authority in relation to the victim, to-wit: CHRISTOPHER A. CARMICHAEL touched CHILD C'S breasts.

1 All of which is a class B felony offense being contrary to and in violation of  
2 11.41.436(a)(5)(B) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.  
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4 COUNT II:  
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6 That on or about February 9, 2018, at or near Bethel, in the Fourth Judicial District,  
7 State of Alaska, CHRISTOPHER A. CARMICHAEL (DOB: 06-16-1964), being 18 years of  
8 age or older, engaged in sexual contact with CHILD B (DOB: 2006), a person who was  
9 under 16 years of age and the offender occupied a position of authority in relation to the  
10 victim, to-wit: CHRISTOPHER A. CARMICHAEL touched CHILD B'S breasts.

11 All of which is a class B felony offense being contrary to and in violation of  
12 11.41.436(a)(5)(B) and against the peace and dignity of the State of Alaska.  
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14 The undersigned swears under oath this Information is based upon a review of  
15 police reports AK16010231, 1802063, and 1908408 submitted to date.  
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17 As more specifically detailed below, starting in 2016, law enforcement became aware  
18 of allegations of inappropriate conduct involving a Lower Kuskokwim School District  
19 ("LKSD") Principal, Christopher Carmichael (DOB: 6/16/1964) (hereinafter, "Carmichael").  
20 Between 2016 and 2019, law enforcement conducted several investigations into specific  
21 allegations of misconduct. In both 2016 and 2018, law enforcement met with LKSD  
22 administrators and advised LKSD about the investigations and of the allegations made  
23 against Carmichael. Specifically, in 2016 LKSD was made aware of inappropriate Facebook  
24 messages between Carmichael and Child A, and in 2018 LKSD was advised that Child B had  
25 alleged that Carmichael touched her breast with the back of his hand.<sup>1</sup> Both incidents were  
26 investigated by law enforcement and, as noted above, reported to the LKSD, but there was  
27 insufficient evidence at the time to successfully prosecute Carmichael.

28 In 2019, the Bethel Police Department learned of another allegation of inappropriate  
29 conduct by Carmichael. At the time of the 2019 investigation, Carmichael remained  
30 employed by LKSD as the principal of Gladys Jung Elementary School. To protect the  
31 integrity of the investigation, it was determined that the existence of the investigation would  
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1 be kept confidential and limited to BPD, AST, the Bethel District Attorney's Office, and  
2 (ultimately) the Federal Bureau of Investigation.

3 As more fully set forth below, the 2019 investigation into Carmichael's conduct  
4 revealed an escalating course of conduct that culminated in Carmichael being arrested by  
federal authorities. The following summarizes the investigations:

## 5 2016 REPORT & INVESTIGATION

6 In 2016, the Alaska State Troopers received a report that Carmichael sent  
7 inappropriate Facebook messages to a fourteen-year-old female former student (hereinafter,  
8 "Child A"). Child A's mother questioned why her child was receiving messages from a  
9 school administrator talking about her child's lips, naughty ways, and spanking. AST  
10 initiated an investigation and recovered communications between Carmichael and Child A.  
11 In those messages, Carmichael referred to Child A as "sweetness," "loveliness," "baby,"  
12 "sweetie," "sweet girl," "pumpkin," "pretty girl," "beautiful," and "sweetheart." AST's  
review of the messages revealed that Carmichael sent the following messages to Child A:

- 13     • "love those luscious red lips on your profile pic :-)"
- 14     • "I know you and your naughty ways too well :-)"
- 15     • "you can't escape my all seeing eye! :-)"
- 16     • "bend you over my knee and whackkk! :)"

17 On March 15, 2016, AST contacted LKSD Assistant Superintendent Carlton Kuhns  
18 (hereinafter, "Kuhns") and advised Kuhns of the investigation. That same day, AST  
19 interviewed Carmichael in his office at Gladys Jung Elementary School. AST confronted  
Carmichael with the messages he had sent Child A, and Carmichael stated he regretted the  
21 wording that he used. Carmichael advised he was in Anchorage at the time he sent the  
messages and that he was heavily medicated. Carmichael denied that he intended to be  
inappropriate. Carmichael told AST that he had assured Child A's mother that the messages  
23 were taken out of context and that nothing inappropriate was said or happened. Carmichael  
25 further advised AST that he had brought up this situation to his boss immediately to let them  
know what was taking place. AST discussed appropriate communication between teachers  
27 and students with Carmichael. Carmichael stated that he would not be "Facebooking" with  
students and that he had learned his lesson.

1           On March 17, 2016, Kuhns contacted AST seeking AST's assistance in searching  
2 Carmichael's LKSD laptop and iPad for possible child pornography. At the request of  
3 LKSD, AST examined Carmichael's LKSD MacBook Pro laptop. The examination did not  
4 discover any evidence of child exploitation but did confirm that Carmichael had  
5 communicated with Child A via Facebook. Also, although clearly inappropriate and  
6 concerning, the messages sent from Carmichael to Child A did not constitute any criminal  
7 offense based on current law; therefore, law enforcement could take no further action  
regarding the conduct.

8           **2018 REPORT & INVESTIGATION**

9           On February 12, 2018, Bethel Police Department received a report that Carmichael  
10 touched the breast of an eleven-year-old girl (hereinafter, "Child B") on February 9, 2018.  
11 Specifically, Child B disclosed to her mother that Carmichael looked down at her breasts and  
12 then touched her breasts with his hand. Child B disclosed to her mother that this took place  
13 in Carmichael's office. Child B stated "[she] was holding the door for [Carmichael] and then  
14 he looked down at [her] 'this part,' and then he touched it, on purpose." Child B clarified  
15 that "this part" referred to her breast and that Carmichael used the back of his hand to touch  
16 her breast. Child B further reported that Carmichael smiled before going to his office. Child  
B advised that she felt scared.

17           On February 15, 2018, BPD applied for and obtained a *Glass* warrant (4BE-18-  
18 00016SW) authorizing BPD to record conversations with Carmichael. In furtherance of the  
19 warrant, Child B's mother called Carmichael advising she was concerned about Carmichael  
20 touching Child B's breast. Carmichael responded that he was probably joking around and  
wrestling with the kids, that he is "very clumsy about how [he moves] and stuff," that he was  
21 joking around with the kids and that it was possible that it happened, that he felt horrible, and  
that he had talked with Child B telling her that he did not remember what happened and to  
22 know that if he hurt her feelings or made her feel uncomfortable that it was not intentional.  
23 When Child B's mother asked Carmichael about Carmichael tickling children, Carmichael  
24 said that the incident with Child B made him rethink and he realized that he cannot afford to  
25 be playing with people anymore because sometimes people take it the wrong way.  
26

On February 20, 2018, Child B's father met with BPD in preparation for his participation in a phone call recorded pursuant to 4BE-18-00016SW. Child B's father told BPD that Carmichael contacted him and stated that the situation was a misunderstanding and that he must have accidentally pushed against Child B. Carmichael told Child B's father that he was really sorry and that he has a reputation to protect. Carmichael further stated that the Dean told him that he may have brushed up against Child B or touched her inappropriately with the back of his hand. Carmichael told Child B's father that he informed the Dean that it was probably an accident, that he was taking care of kids telling them to go out, and that he may have accidentally touched her.

During a recorded phone call, Carmichael told Child B's father that he was not 100% sure of the allegations made by Child B. Carmichael further stated that he was trying to move kids out of his office, and Carmichael promised he would never attempt to touch any person on their body in a place that is a private area. Carmichael advised he felt terrible about the situation and it was not intentional.

On February 20, 2018, BPD Chief Waldron and BPD Lt. Davis (hereinafter, "Davis") met with LKSD Superintendent Dan Walker (hereinafter, "Walker") to advise LKSD of the investigation. Following their meeting with Walker, BPD invited Carmichael to the Bethel Police Department to discuss the allegations made by Child B. Carmichael agreed to meet with BPD advising BPD that he first needed to contact the Dean about the situation.

Carmichael met with BPD. Carmichael said that he was aware that Child B had reported to a teacher that she was made uncomfortable by something that took place between him and the student. Carmichael advised the complaint was vague and that he learned of the report from the Dean. Carmichael stated that he was "mystified" as to the issue. Carmichael denied having a memory of touching Child B's breasts. However, Carmichael stated it could have happened because he was trying to shuttle kids out of his office. Carmichael admitted that it was possible that he touched Child B in a way that made her feel uncomfortable, but it was not intentional.

2019 REPORT & INVESTIGATION

On June 17, 2019, BPD received a report that Carmichael touched Child C's breast and thighs when Child C was in the seventh grade. It was reported that the sexual abuse took

1 place inside Gladys Jung Elementary School. Child C had just finished the 8<sup>th</sup> Grade, so  
2 based upon Child C's statements, the sexual abuse would have occurred during the 2017-  
2018 school year.

3 BPD met with Child C's mother who advised that Child C became close to  
4 Carmichael while Child C was a student at Gladys Jung. Child C's mother stated that after  
5 Child C matriculated to Bethel Regional High School, Child C would return to Gladys Jung  
6 to visit with Carmichael. Child C's mother advised that Carmichael had previously given her  
7 and Child C gifts including basket woven pins, a king-sized bed, and paint. Child C's  
8 mother also stated that when Child C's father was incarcerated Carmichael told Child C that  
9 she could call him "Dad."

10 Child C participated in an interview at the Child Advocacy Center ("CAC"). Child C  
11 stated that she had known Carmichael since the fourth grade and they used to walk on the  
12 playground together where Carmichael would sing and talk to her. Child C stated that  
13 Carmichael would hug her. Child C disclosed that by the time she was in sixth grade she had  
14 grown closer to Carmichael and would confide in him about her problems (e.g., bullies,  
15 tough days, and God). Child C described how she and Carmichael would spend time together  
after school. Child C said it made her feel happy to be with Carmichael.

16 Child C said when she was in the seventh grade, around November 2017, Carmichael  
17 began touching her on her breasts. Child C disclosed that one time, while they were in the  
18 gym together, she followed Carmichael into a closet, Carmichael closed the door, and  
19 Carmichael hugged her from behind and touched her breasts. Child C stated that was the  
first time he touched her breasts. Child C described how Carmichael told her it needed to be  
20 outside of the cameras so he would take her into the closets and his office to sexually abuse  
21 her. Child C disclosed that Carmichael touched her breasts every Friday after school or  
22 whenever he had the opportunity and all the staff were gone.

23 Child C was asked about how she felt when Carmichael hugged her from behind and  
24 groped her breasts, and Child C responded that at the time she thought it was sweet but now  
25 thinks it is creepy. Child C stated that during the hugging episodes Carmichael would tell  
26 Child C that he loved her or words to that effect.

27

1 Child C was asked about any other incidents of touching. Child C disclosed that one  
2 time when she was in Carmichael's car with him and his wife, Carmichael's wife went into  
3 the store and Carmichael reached over, rubbed her upper thigh, and licked his fingers.  
4 Carmichael told her did that to comfort her. Child C also disclosed that once while  
5 Carmichael was hugging Child C from behind, Carmichael ran his hand under her shirt  
6 around her stomach. Additionally, Child C disclosed that Carmichael would sometimes kiss  
7 her around the neck. Child C described these as not actual kisses but putting his mouth on  
8 her skin. Child C said it was creepy when Carmichael was "kissing" her neck.

9 Child C said the sexual abuse stopped during the summer before 8<sup>th</sup> Grade because  
10 she stopped seeing Carmichael after her mother told her to stop seeing Carmichael. Child C  
11 said her mother became uncomfortable with Carmichael's interactions with Child C.

12 On September 19, 2019, BPD applied for and received a *Glass* warrant (4BE-19-  
13 00097SW) authorizing the recording of communications with Carmichael. The warrant  
14 covered communications made via email, Skype, FaceTime, text messaging, Facebook, and  
15 any other electronic means. (BPD applied for and received extensions on the warrant on  
16 October 30, 2019 and December 2, 2019.)

17 On September 20, 2019, Davis began an undercover operation and took control of  
18 Child C's Facebook account. Davis, acting as Child C, sent Christopher Carmichael a  
19 "friend request."

20 On September 30, 2019, Child C's mother contacted BPD and advised that  
21 Carmichael spoke to Child C's sister and told her to tell Child C that he was not able to  
22 accept her Facebook "friend request" even though he really wanted to. Carmichael further  
23 asked Child C's sister to tell Child C that it was not a good idea right now, for Child C to try  
24 again when she graduates, and that he loved and missed her. In response, and at direction of  
25 law enforcement, Child C's mother sent Carmichael a message letting Carmichael know that  
26 Child C was doing much better, that it was okay to send messages to her daughter, and that  
27 she would consider phone communication later on.

1           On September 30, 2019, Carmichael accepted a “friend request” from Child C’s  
2 Facebook account. Thereafter, Davis, in her undercover capacity, began to exchange  
3 messages with Carmichael.<sup>2</sup>

4           During the messaging, Carmichael acknowledges that he knows Child C is 15-years-  
5 old, and he repeatedly refers to Child C as “kiddo.” As the messaging progressed,  
6 Carmichael began to write “ILU,” “IMU,” and “IWU” which are believed to mean “I Love  
7 You,” “I Miss You,” and “I Want You,” respectively. Throughout the messages, Carmichael  
repeatedly directs that the messages should be deleted.

8           In December 2019, Carmichael inquires of Child C about Child C masturbating.  
9 Ultimately, Carmichael discusses a plan to meet with Child C.

10          On December 10, 2019, the Bethel Police Department, in conjunction with the  
11 Federal Bureau of Investigation, arranged for Child C<sup>3</sup> to participate in a telephone call with  
12 Carmichael. The call was recorded pursuant to the previously authorized warrant. During  
13 the phone call, Child C was holding a stuffed animal. During the phone call, Carmichael  
14 inquired whether Child C was alone in her room. Carmichael proceeded to make many  
15 sexually explicit and graphic statements to Child C. These comments included a statement  
16 that Carmichael has masturbated to her “thousands of times,” and a description of what  
17 Carmichael would like to do, sexually, to Child C. During the phone call, Carmichael also  
18 addressed Child C’s disclosure of being sexually abused by him, and he made the following  
admission:

19          Umm when you were talking about me touching your boobs umm there are  
20 people, I'm sure people read that and I'm sure that they're very concerned  
21 about it. If you could do me a favor at some point when we are chatting on  
there you could say you know I remember that was an accident and you did  
say you were sorry. I know that's not true but could you do that for me to help  
protect me.

22  
23  
24  
25  
26          <sup>2</sup> The Facebook communications that follow, although described to have been between Child C and Carmichael, are  
between Lt. Davis, posing as Child C, and Carmichael.

27          <sup>3</sup> Child C, under the supervision of law enforcement and with the consent of her parents, participated in the recorded  
telephone call with Carmichael.

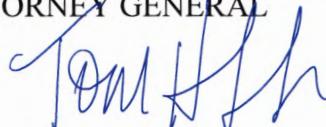
1 Ultimately, after making a number of other sexually graphic statements, Carmichael told  
2 Child C that he loves her and ended the call.  
3

4 Following the conclusion of the phone call, law enforcement executed federal search  
5 warrants on Carmichael's residence.  
6

7 Carmichael was then interviewed by law enforcement. Carmichael admitted speaking  
8 with Child C earlier that night. However, Carmichael's version of the phone call with Child  
9 C was inconsistent with the actual call recorded by law enforcement. Specifically,  
10 Carmichael told law enforcement that it was Child C who wanted him to meet her at the  
11 Longhouse, that he told her "no," that it was his impression that Child C wanted to make out  
12 in one way or another, that he sensed it was something sexual, that he told her it was  
13 inappropriate, that he told her he was not going to do that with her, and that he told her it was  
14 not going to happen. Carmichael admitted that he told Child C to delete the messages about  
15 him touching her breasts. Carmichael also admitted that he is sexually attracted to Child C.  
16

17 Dated at Bethel, Alaska, this 9<sup>TH</sup> day of APRIL, 2020.

18 KEVIN G. CLARKSON  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

19 By: 

20 S. Thomas Peavey Hoffer  
District Attorney  
Alaska Bar No. 0811064

21 filed w/ Bethel  
22 Ct. 04.09.20

23 

1 IN THE DISTRICT COURT FOR THE STATE OF ALASKA  
2 FOURTH JUDICIAL DISTRICT AT

3 STATE OF ALASKA,  
4 Plaintiff,

5 VS.

6 CHRISTOPHER A. CARMICHAEL  
7 DOB: 06/16/1964  
8 APSIN ID: 7053724  
9 DMV NO.: 7504969 AK  
ATN: 116484021  
Defendant.

10 No. 4BE-20- CR

11 **REQUEST FOR WARRANT**

12 I certify this document and its attachments do not contain the (1) name of a victim of a sexual offense listed in AS 12.61.140 or (2)  
13 residence or business address or telephone number of a victim of or witness to any offense unless it is an address identifying the place of a  
crime or an address or telephone number in a transcript of a court proceeding and disclosure of the information was ordered by the court.

14 COMES NOW the Plaintiff, STATE OF ALASKA, by and through its undersigned  
15 District Attorney, and hereby requests this honorable court issue an Arrest Warrant in this  
16 matter. As set forth in the Information, the defendant is charged with sexually abusing two  
17 minors. The particular facts of this conduct is egregious and the defendant's conduct  
18 demonstrates that he is a substantial danger to other people and the community.

19 WHEREFORE, the Plaintiff respectfully requests the court issue an Arrest Warrant in  
this matter.

20 Respectfully submitted this 9th day of APRIL, 2020.

21 KEVIN G. CLARKSON  
22 ATTORNEY GENERAL

23 

24 Tom Hoffer  
25 District Attorney  
26 Alaska Bar No. 0811064

27 Filed w/ Bethel  
Ct. 04.09.20

